

**Protocol Between  
the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and  
Quarantine of the People's Republic of China  
and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Costa  
Rica on Veterinary and Health Requirements for Pork  
to Be Exported from Costa Rica to China**

The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection And Quarantine of The People's Republic of China (AQSIQ, hereinafter referred to as Chinese side) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Costa Rica (MAG, hereinafter referred to as Costa Rican side) through friendly negotiation, have agreed the following veterinary and health requirements for frozen pork to be exported from Costa Rica To China.

Article 1

Costa Rican side shall be responsible for inspection and quarantine of frozen pork to be exported to China, and the issuance of health certificates.

Article 2

Costa Rican side shall provide Chinese side with the following documents: laws and regulations governing the slaughtering and processing hygiene control of the frozen pork exported to China, as well as inspection and quarantine programs, methods of analysis, administrative process and related standards.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Chinese side, Costa Rican side shall provide the preventive and control system for the diseases listed in Articles 3 and 4 of this protocol and shall submit an immediate information on new outbreaks in swine. Costa Rican side shall provide annual residues monitoring, contaminants and pathogens agent monitoring plans for the following year, as well as annual residue monitoring report for the current year.

Costa Rican side shall establish a long-term (3years) monitoring plan which should cover the whole forbidden and restricted veterinary medicines and metabolite listed in China and Costa Rican, and defines the important surveillance programs including all of those proposed by Chinese side.



Costa Rican side shall provide Chinese side with the documents including the plans and implementation of employee training in the utilization and administration of veterinary medicines as well as in inspection techniques.

Before the first exportation and the following operation if necessary, the Chinese side may designate experts to Costa Rica to do on-site inspection visit of the above-mentioned control system and management status within the obligatory assistant provide by Costa Rican side.

### Article 3

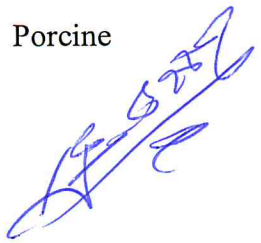
Costa Rican side officially confirms the following contents:

1. In Costa Rica there is no presence of the following animal diseases: Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Rinderpest, Classical Swine Fever, African Swine Fever, Swine Vesicular Disease and Swine Infectious Encephalomyelitis, Porcine Transmissible Gastroenteritis, Trichinellosis.
2. OIE has confirmed that in Costa Rica there is no risk of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Rinderpest, Classical Swine Fever and African Swine Fever.
3. According to the OIE bulletin, confirmed clinical cases of Vesicular Stomatitis and Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome in recent years. The Costa Rican side shall periodically inform the Chinese side of updates of the above diseases, including specific locations of occurrence, scope of epidemic as well as details of administered medication and control
4. Costa Rica has established an effective tracing system, ensure that the slaughtered swine can be traced back to the farms where they were born and raised.

### Article 4

The Slaughtered swine for frozen pork exported to the People's Republic of China shall be complied with the following conditions:

1. Be born, raised and slaughtered in Costa Rica;
2. Come from farms on which there have been no occurrence of Anthrax, Porcine Brucellosis, Aujeszky's Disease, Atrophic Rhinitis of swine, Porcine Infectious pleuropneumonia, Tuberculosis for the last 6 months;
3. Originate from farms on which there has been no clinical occurrence of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) for the last 6 months



4. Originate from farms where no restriction or surveillance zone has been established due to notifiable diseases in swine, which should be reported in accordance with the relevant OIE and Costa Rican animal health regulations.

#### Article 5

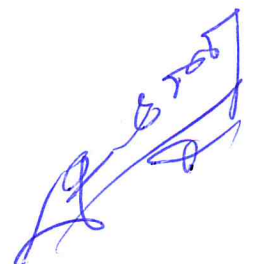
The slaughtering processing and storing plants for exporting frozen pork to the People's Republic of China shall meet the requirements on veterinary health and public health of Chinese and Costa Rican laws and regulations.

Registration of slaughtering processing and storing plants intended to export to the People's Republic of China is handled according to the Regulations for Administration of Registration of Foreign Food Establishments by the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA). Products from slaughtering processing and storing plants that have not got the registration from CNCA must not be imported into the People's Republic of China.

#### Article 6

The Costa Rican official veterinarian shall carry out the following functions.

1. Ante-mortem and post-mortem quarantine and inspections to the swine from which the exporting frozen pork originated in accordance with the related Chinese and Costa Rican laws and regulations.
2. Certify that the slaughtered swine are healthy, no clinical signs of infectious disease have been found, no lesion has been found on the carcass and viscera, complies with the requirements of origins of the swine in the Protocol.
3. Certify that residue level of veterinary medicine, pesticides, heavy metals, poisonous, hazardous articles contained in the products is below the limits stipulated by China and Costa Rica, nor does it contains medicines prohibited by China and Costa Rica.
4. Certify that the frozen pork products are free from the pollution of pathogenic agent in conformity with the Chinese and Costa Rican laws and regulations.
5. Certify the hygiene and safety of the frozen pork products and fit for human consumption.





#### Article 7

The slaughtering and processing plants for exporting frozen pork to the People's Republic of China, shall not slaughter together with swine not complying with the requirements in Article 4 and shall not process frozen pork not complying with the requirements in Article 4 and Article 6 of this protocol at the same time. A specific area within cold store house shall be available exclusive for the storage of frozen pork exported to the People's Republic of China.

#### Article 8

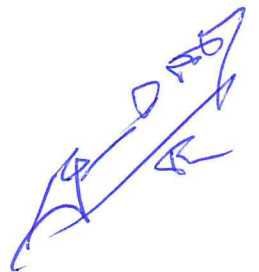
The frozen pork to be exported to China must be packed in the new packaging materials in compliance with the international hygienic standard.

The product name, establishment registration number, batch number, specification, country of origin, place of origin(state/ province/city) , production date, shelf life and storage temperature should be labeled on the outside package in trilingual of English, Chinese and Spanish, and should be indicated "the People's Republic of China" as destination country. The surface of package shall have the identification mark containing the approval number (obtained after official control of veterinary and health requirement). The country of origin, product name, establishment registration number and batch number shall be marked on the interior package.

#### Article 9

During the package, storage and transportation, the frozen pork to be exported to China shall meet the veterinary hygienic requirements and the relevant regulations of China and Costa Rica, and shall be prevented from being contaminated by poisonous and harmful substances. During transportation in Costa Rica, pork should not be passed through restricted or under surveillance area because of diseases.

The process of container loading and seal should be under the supervision of Costa Rica official veterinarians, the seal number should be indicated on the health certificate. The container should be clean. During the transportation, the cold chain should be maintained and the package should not be opened or changed. The core temperature of frozen pork should not be higher than 18 degrees centigrade.



#### Article 10

Each consignment of frozen pork has to be accompanied with an original health certificate confirming that the products are in compliance of the veterinarian and public health rules and regulations of the Republic of Costa Rica, and relevant requirements of this Protocol. In order to facilitate the import inspection by Chinese side, Costa Rican side shall timely inform the Chinese side the electronic information of the issued health certificates through official channels.

The health certificate should be done in trilingual of Chinese, Spanish and English.

Before exporting pork to China, Costa Rican side shall provide to Chinese side, for filing purposes, with the samples of the quarantine stamps, the health certificates, a list of authorized veterinarians with their signatures, and the inspected marks etc. If there is any modification and changes of the above, Costa Rican side shall notify the Chinese side at least one month before the changes take effect.

#### Article 11

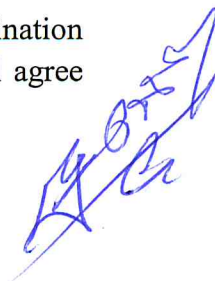
If there is any occurrence in Costa Rica of infectious and contagious disease(s) listed in Article 3 of this Protocol, or notified diseases listed by OIE and may have effect on the pork. The Costa Rica side shall notify the Chinese side immediately, recall contaminated and potentially contaminated products timely, and stop exportation of pork to China immediately.

If there is any occurrence in Costa Rica of infectious and contagious disease(s) listed in Article 4 of this Protocol, or contamination event in the region exporting pork to China, the Costa Rica side shall notify the Chinese side immediately, recall contaminated and potentially contaminated products timely, and stop exportation of pork to China immediately from the affected region.

If the Costa Rica side discovers any breach of requirements of Article 6 of this Protocol, the Costa Rica side shall notify the Chinese side immediately, recall contaminated and potentially contaminated products timely suspend exportation pork to China from relevant plants immediately.

When disease is completely eliminated or contamination event is over, if the Costa Rica side wishes to resume exports to China, the Costa Rica side should provide the Chinese side with detail report containing information on the status of the diseases or contamination event, tracing investigation, the measure of prevention and control, both sides shall agree upon the resumption in advance.

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Article 12

If the frozen pork to be exported to China is found by the Chinese side not to be in compliance with the requirements of the Protocol, Chinese side will immediately notify Costa Rica side, and should seek the return, destruction, or other disposal of the product. The Costa Rica side will cooperate with the Chinese side to investigate in addressing any problems, including notifying the Chinese side of any corrective actions to be taken, such as the recall of any other potential affected products and to prevent recurrence of the non-compliance.

Article 13

For the purposes of this Protocol, pork refers to any edible parts of carcass, heart, liver, kidney, tail, foot, ears, tongue, snouts, head (exclude brain and eye).

Article 14

This Protocol can be amended with the mutual consent of both sides.

Article 15

This protocol shall come into force on the date of signing. Any side may terminate this Protocol by notifying the other side in written 6 months in advance.

Article 16

The protocol is signed in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, done in trilingual of Chinese, Spanish and English. All three versions shall be equally authentic. Should there be any deviation of interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

On behalf of

The General Administration of Quality,  
Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of  
The People's Republic of China



On behalf of

The Ministry of Agriculture and  
Livestock of the Republic of Costa Rica

